

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 40 and 41 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter.

Please amend Claims 1, 6, 21, 25, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34 and 35 to read as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A speech input terminal in a speech communication system comprising said speech input terminal for transmitting inputted speech data to a speech recognition apparatus through a network, and said speech recognition apparatus executing speech recognition processing for the speech data transmitted from said speech input terminal, said speech input terminal comprising:

speech receiving means for receiving speech data from speech input means;

creating means for creating a model based on information ~~captured by said speech input means~~ representing an operation environment, the model being for environment adaptation for speech recognition in said speech recognition apparatus; and

communication means for transmitting the model and the speech data to said speech recognition apparatus and for receiving the results of the speech recognition executed on the basis of the model by said speech recognition apparatus.

2. (Previously Presented) The terminal according to claim 1, wherein the model indicates at least one of a characteristic of said speech input means, a noise characteristic, and a speaker characteristic.

3. (Previously Presented) The terminal according to claim 1, further comprising means for quantizing the speech data using a quantization table before transmitting the speech data to said speech recognition apparatus, the quantization table being received from said speech recognition apparatus.

4. (Previously Presented) The terminal according to claim 1, further comprising:

- means for storing the model;
- means for determining whether there has been a change in the model in each transmitting of the speech data; and
- means for notifying said speech recognition apparatus of the corresponding model, when there has been no change in the model.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) A speech recognition apparatus in a speech communication system comprising a speech input terminal for transmitting inputted speech data to said speech recognition apparatus through a network, and said speech recognition apparatus executing speech recognition processing for the speech data transmitted from said speech input terminal, said speech recognition apparatus comprising:

- speech recognition means for executing speech recognition processing for the speech data transmitted from said speech input terminal through the network; and

means for receiving a model for environment adaptation for speech recognition from said speech input terminal, the model being created by said speech input terminal based on information captured by said speech input terminal representing an operation environment thereof,

wherein said speech recognition means executes speech recognition processing on the basis of the model.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising means for creating an environment adaptation speech recognition model on the basis of the received model.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 8,  
wherein said speech input terminal quantizes the speech data using a quantization table before transmitting the speech data to said speech recognition apparatus,  
and

wherein said apparatus further comprises:

means for creating the quantization table based on the environment adaptation speech recognition model, and

means for transmitting the quantization table to said speech input terminal.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the quantization table is created based on the distribution of the environment adaptation speech recognition model.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said speech communication system comprises a plurality of speech input terminals and said apparatus further comprises means for storing the model in correspondence with each of said speech input terminals.

15-17. (Cancelled)

18. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said speech communication system comprises a plurality of speech input terminals and said apparatus further comprises means for storing the environment adaptation speech recognition model in correspondence with each of said speech input terminals.

19. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said speech communication system comprises a plurality of speech input terminals and said apparatus further comprises means for storing the quantization table in correspondence with each of said speech input terminals.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) A speech communication system comprising a speech input terminal for transmitting inputted speech data to a speech recognition apparatus through a network, and said speech recognition apparatus executing speech recognition processing for the speech data transmitted from said speech input terminal,

wherein said speech input terminal comprises speech receiving means for receiving speech data from speech input means, creating means for creating a model based on information ~~captured by said speech input means~~ representing an operation environment, the model being for environment adaptation for speech recognition in said speech recognition apparatus, and communication means for transmitting the model and the speech data to said speech recognition apparatus and for receiving the results of the speech recognition executed on the basis of the model by said speech recognition apparatus, ~~which receives the model~~, and

wherein said speech recognition apparatus comprises means for executing speech recognition processing on the basis of the model.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Previously Presented) The speech communication system according to claim 21,

wherein said speech input terminal quantizes the speech data using a quantization table before transmitting the speech data to said speech recognition apparatus, and

wherein said speech recognition apparatus further comprises means for creating an environment adaptation speech recognition model on the basis of the received model, means for creating the quantization table based on the environment adaptation speech recognition model, and means for transmitting the quantization table to said speech input terminal.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) A control method in a speech communication system comprising a speech input terminal transmitting inputted speech data to a speech recognition apparatus through a network, and the speech recognition apparatus executing speech recognition processing for the speech data transmitted from the speech input terminal, said method comprising:

a speech receiving step of receiving speech data from speech input means;

the a creating step of creating a model in the speech input terminal based on information captured by the speech input terminal representing an operation environment, the

model being for environment adaptation for speech recognition in the speech recognition apparatus; and

~~the~~ a communication step of transmitting the model and the speech data from the speech input terminal to the speech recognition apparatus and of receiving the results of the speech recognition executed on the basis of the model by the speech recognition apparatus.

26. (Currently Amended) A control method in a speech communication system comprising a speech input terminal transmitting inputted speech data to a speech recognition apparatus through a network, and the speech recognition apparatus executing speech recognition processing for the speech data transmitted from the speech input terminal, said method comprising:

a ~~the~~ step of receiving a model for environment adaptation for speech recognition from the speech input terminal, the model being created by the speech input terminal based on information ~~captured by the speech input terminal~~ representing an operation environment thereof; and

a ~~the~~ step of executing, in the speech recognition apparatus, speech recognition processing on the basis of the model.

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 26,

wherein the speech input terminal quantizes the speech data using a quantization table before transmitting the speech data to the speech recognition apparatus, and

wherein said method further comprises:

a ~~the~~ step of creating an environment adaptation speech model on the basis of the received model;

a ~~the~~ step of creating the quantization table based on the environment adaptation speech recognition model; and

a ~~the~~ step of transmitting the quantization table to the speech input terminal.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Currently Amended) A control method in a speech communication system comprising a speech input terminal for transmitting inputted speech data to a speech recognition apparatus through a network, and the speech recognition apparatus executing speech recognition processing for the speech data transmitted from the speech input terminal, said method comprising:

a speech receiving step of receiving speech data at the speech input terminal from speech input means;

~~the~~ a creating step of creating a model in the speech input terminal based on information ~~captured by the speech input terminal~~ representing an operation environment, the model being for environment adaptation for speech recognition in the speech recognition apparatus;



~~the~~ a step of transmitting the model and the speech data from the speech input terminal to the speech recognition apparatus; ~~which receives the model; and~~

~~the~~ a step of executing, in the speech recognition apparatus, speech recognition processing on the basis of the model; and

a step of transmitting the results of the speech recognition from the speech recognition apparatus to the speech input terminal.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Currently Amended) The speech communication method according to claim 30, further comprising:

~~a~~ the step of creating an environment adaptation speech model on the basis of the received model in the speech recognition apparatus;

~~a~~ the step of creating a quantization table based on the environment adaptation speech recognition model in the speech recognition apparatus;

~~a~~ the step of transmitting the quantization table from the speech recognition apparatus to the speech input terminal; and

~~a~~ the step of quantizing the speech data using the quantization table in the speech input terminal before transmitting the speech data from the speech input terminal to the speech recognition apparatus.

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing ~~recording~~ a program causing a speech input terminal, in a speech communication system comprising the speech input terminal for transmitting inputted speech data to a speech recognition apparatus through a network, and the speech recognition apparatus executing speech recognition processing for the speech data transmitted from the speech input terminal, to perform the steps comprising:

receiving speech data from speech input means;

creating a model based on information ~~captured by the speech input terminal~~ representing an operation environment, the model being for environment adaptation for speech recognition in the speech recognition apparatus; ~~and~~

transmitting the model to the speech recognition apparatus; and

receiving the results of the speech recognition executed on the basis of the model by the speech recognition apparatus.

35. (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing ~~recording~~ a program causing a computer, in a speech communication system comprising a speech input terminal for transmitting inputted speech data to the computer through a network, and the computer executing speech recognition processing for the speech data transmitted from the speech input terminal, to perform the steps comprising:

receiving a model for environment adaptation for speech recognition from the speech input terminal, the model being created by the speech input terminal based on information ~~captured by the speech input terminal~~ representing an operation environment thereof; and

executing speech recognition processing on the basis of the model.

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Previously Presented) The storage medium according to claim 35,  
wherein the speech input terminal quantizes the speech data using a  
quantization table before transmitting the speech data to the computer, and  
wherein the steps further comprise:  
creating an environment adaptation speech model on the basis of the received  
model;  
creating the quantization table based on the environment adaptation speech  
recognition model; and  
transmitting the quantization table to the speech input terminal.

38. (Cancelled)

39. (Previously Presented) The terminal according to claim 1, wherein the  
model is an average or variance of the captured information.

40. (Canceled)

41. (Canceled)